The gardens are an integral part of Massachusetts Horticultural Society (Mass Hort), a nonprofit with a mission dedicated to encouraging the science and practice of horticulture and to developing the public’s enjoyment, appreciation, and understanding of plants and the environment. Mass Hort leases the property from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and has been headquartered here since 2001.

To Access the Audio Tour, please dial 617-466-3067. Audio tour stops are noted with their number beside the garden name (ex. #).

Most paths are paved or crushed gravel. A wheelchair is available at the Visitors Center on a first come; first served basis.

Restrooms are located in the Education Building.

Service Dogs only. Help us maintain the quality of the gardens by leaving pets at home.

You can also find more information on the gardens, events, and volunteering at www.masshort.org.
Welcome Garden [1]  
Donated and designed by Paul Miskovsky; features four-season interest with trees and shrubs.

Mass Hort Trial Garden [2]  
The first garden installed by Mass Hort; it is one of three trial gardens in New England, and tests new and unreleased varieties of annuals and perennials, as well as heirloom vegetables. Plants under trial are grown beside similar, established varieties and are judged based on suitability for growing in zones 5 and 6.

Hartley Botanic Victorian Lodge  
Installed in 2017, this beautiful greenhouse displays how home gardeners can use a greenhouse on their property. It also showcases rotating plant displays throughout the year.

Shade Garden  
This garden features many varieties of hosta and other shade-loving plants. This garden is maintained by the New England Hosta Society, and many of the plants were donated by members.

Weezie’s Garden for Children [3]  
This garden was installed in 2003 and designed by Julie Moir Messervy. Spiral paths create ‘rooms’ designed to engage the senses. Rooms include a pollinator garden and a backyard wildlife garden (with child-size bird nests). The colorful stones around the misting water feature are petrified wood, a form of fossil.

Bressingham Garden [4]  
Installed in 2007 and designed by plantsman Adrian Bloom of Bressingham, England, this garden was installed in two days by more than 200 volunteers. It is a four-season garden that uses ‘mass planting’ techniques to create visual impact. Island beds of perennials and trees create functional and beautiful residential landscapes.

Seed to Table Vegetable Garden [5]  
This garden was established in 2011 with the purpose to help people learn about growing their own food. Displaying raised beds, potted gardens, and a variety of composting methods, this garden showcases different ways home gardeners can find success with their gardens. Produce is donated to local food pantries.

Manor House [6]  
Alice Cheney Baltzell was the last individual who lived on this property. In 1907, she hired Carrère and Hastings to design the house (this firm also designed the NY Public Library) and the Olmsted Brothers firm to design the gardens. It was built at the same time as the Hunnewell Building (which functioned as the carriage house). Today, Mass Hort is researching how to restore the Manor House as part of its Master Plan.

Olmsted Italianate Garden [7]  
This garden was designed by Percival Gallagher of the Olmsted Firm and functioned as a room of the Manor House, with the hedge providing “walls.” The Camperdown elms (trees nearest the house) are grafted trees and original to Gallagher’s design. The fountain is a 14th century Spanish baptismal font, purchased by Alice Cheney-Baltzell on her honeymoon.

Temple and Asian Gardens  
These gardens were part of the Olmsted’s original 1907 design, and are awaiting restoration.

Historic Daffodil and Native Plant Garden  
Check out the blooms board to see what’s growing here. The board and garden is managed by the Noanett Garden Club.

Teaching Herb Garden  
Planted like a clock, each wedge has a theme highlighting the herb’s use or history. This garden is maintained by the New England Unit of the Herb Society of America.

Alan Peyton Memorial Rhododendron Display Garden  
This garden is managed by the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. They have planted unusual small-leaved varieties of rhododendron and varieties that can grow in full sun.

Daylily Garden  
This garden features more than 100 varieties of heirloom daylilies growing amid other pollinator-friendly plants. It is maintained by the New England Daylily Society.

Goddess Garden [8]  
These three statues are the Roman goddesses Flora, Ceres, and Pomona. They were installed on the 2nd Horticultural Hall in Boston—Ceres (in the center) was on the 3rd floor, and Flora and Pomona on the 2nd floor—from the street, they all appeared to be the same height.

Join Mass Hort today for free garden admission and discounts on classes all season long!